

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 02183 01 OF 02 241458Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-02 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
EA-10 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06
OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00
OMB-01 SS-15 SOE-02 DODE-00 DOE-11 H-01 INT-05
L-03 NSC-05 PM-05 OES-07 STR-06 ACDA-12 NRC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 /166 W

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R 241451Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4723

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 02183

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E.O.11652: NA
TAGS: ENRG OECD
SUBJECT: JAN 19 IEA GOVERNING BOARD-NUCLEAR WORK PROGRAM

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF GOVERNING BOARD CONCLUSIONS
CONTAINING NUCLEAR WORK PROGRAM:

BEGIN TEXT

THE GOVERNING BOARD

(A) HAVING CONSIDERED IEA/GB(77)42 AND IEA/GB(78)3,
APPROVED THE PROPOSED ADDITIONAL PROGRAM OF WORK IN
NUCLEAR ENERGY:

TASK 1: A CRITICAL ASSESSMENT WILL BE MADE OF
ELECTRICITY GROWTH TO 1985 AND BEYOND. THIS WILL INTEN-
SIFY THE PREVIOUS SLT WORK WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON
THE ELECTRICITY SECTOR IN ORDER TO VALIDATE OR ALTER
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PAGE 02 PARIS 02183 01 OF 02 241458Z

NUCLEAR DEMAND PROJECTIONS. IT WILL INCLUDE AN EXAMINA-
TION OF ALTERNATIVE SCENARIOS WITH VARYING NUCLEAR ENER-
GY COMPONENTS TO ILLUMINATE THE ROLE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY
IN FUTURE ENERGY BALANCES AND THE CONSEQUENCES OF
NUCLEAR ENERGY SHORTFALL.

TASK 2: (FOOTNOTE 1): AN EXAMINATION WILL BE

MADE OF THE EXTENT TO WHICH GOVERNMENT POLICY CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE SUPPLY OF URANIUM RAW MATERIAL, WHETHER ON THE SIDE OF THE PRODUCER OR CONSUMER, ARE AFFECTING NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT IN THE IEA. INsofar AS THERE ARE DIFFICULTIES, MEASURES WHICH MIGHT ALLEVIATE THE DIFFICULTIES WILL BE IDENTIFIED AND EXAMINED.

WHILE ANY SUCH MEASURES WOULD INITIALLY BE EXPLORED WITHIN AN IEA CONTEXT, THEY WOULD NOT BE VIEWED AS EXCLUSIVELY IEA MECHANISMS, BUT RATHER AS DEFINING PATTERNS WHICH COULD ALSO BE MADE APPLICABLE IN A BROADER CONTEXT. IEA WILL MAINTAIN CLOSE OBSERVATION OF ANY SIMILAR ACTIVITY ELSEWHERE, SUCH AS IN THE INFCE, IN ORDER THAT ALL SUCH ACTIVITIES BE AS MUTUALLY SUPPORTIVE AS PRACTICABLE.

TASK 3: AN EXAMINATION WILL BE MADE OF THE POLICIES AND PRACTICES WHICH AFFECT THE ACTUAL MINING OF URANIUM RAW MATERIAL TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY ARE IMPEDING OR LIKELY TO IMPEDE TO A CRITICAL DEGREE THE SUPPLY OF URANIUM, INCLUDING MARKET AND INVESTMENT CONDITIONS IMPORTANT TO BOTH PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS. THE OBJECTIVE WILL BE TO IDENTIFY POLICY ACTIONS NEEDED TO PROVIDE SUITABLE FRAMEWORK(S) FOR URANIUM PRODUCTION INVESTMENT.

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PAGE 03 PARIS 02183 01 OF 02 241458Z

TASK 4: DETERMINE WHETHER EXISTING URANIUM EXPLORATION PROGRAMS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE WORK OF NEA AND IAEA, ARE ADEQUATE TO ESTABLISH WITH NEEDED ACCURACY THE URANIUM RESOURCE BASE.

TASK 5: (FOOTNOTE 1): AN EXAMINATION WILL BE MADE OF THE EXTENT TO WHICH GOVERNMENT POLICY CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE SUPPLY OF ENRICHMENT SERVICES ARE AFFECTING OR ARE LIKELY TO AFFECT CURRENT AND NEAR TERM DECISIONS TO CONSTRUCT NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS. INsofar AS THEY ARE, MEASURES WHICH MIGHT ALLEVIATE THE DIFFICULTIES WILL BE IDENTIFIED AND EXAMINED.

TASK 6: WORK WILL BE INITIATED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS IN ORDER TO BE PREPARED FOR SPECIFIC IMPLEMENTING ACTION IF, AFTER APPROPRIATE ENCOURAGEMENT BY IEA, RELATED EFFORTS IN OTHER BODIES ARE INADEQUATE TO THE PROBLEMS AND THE EVOLVING ENERGY SITUATION SHOULD MAKE SUCH ACTION NECESSARY:

A. CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BACK END OF THE FUEL CYCLE IN THE CONTEXT OF DIFFERING NA-

TIONAL POLICIES AND SITUATIONS OF IEA MEMBER COUNTRIES.

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PAGE 01 PARIS 02183 02 OF 02 241500Z
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B. DEFINITION OF A MULTINATIONAL DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM
FOR LONG TERM DISPOSITION OF SPENT FUEL AND WASTE WHICH
WOULD INCLUDE COLLABORATIVE DEMONSTRATIONS IN SEVERAL
COUNTRIES UNDER VARYING GEOPHYSICAL CONDITIONS.

(B) IN APPROVING THE WORK PROGRAM, THE GOVERNING BOARD
DIRECTED THAT:

(1) EMPHASIS SHOULD BE PLACED UPON THOSE ISSUES
WHICH AFFECT THE ABILITY OF NUCLEAR POWER TO FULFILL
ITS NECESSARY ROLE IN MEETING THE OVERALL ENERGY
OBJECTIVES OF IEA;

(2) FULL ACCOUNT SHOULD BE TAKEN OF THE WORK BEING
DONE BY OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS,
SEEKING NOT TO DUPLICATE ACTIVITIES THAT ARE ADEQUATELY
BEING CARRIED OUT, AND WHERE APPROPRIATE, BUILDING ON
THEM;

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PAGE 02 PARIS 02183 02 OF 02 241500Z

AND NOTED THAT:

(3) THIS WORK PROGRAM SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS PRE-LIMINARY AND EVOLVING AND THAT THE NUCLEAR SUB-GROUP SHOULD HAVE ADEQUATE FLEXIBILITY IN DECIDING WHICH ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN AND THE PRIORITY ACCORDED THEM;

(4) TASK 6 IS MORE PROPERLY WITHIN THE MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WHICH SHOULD HAVE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE WORK, COORDINATING WITH SLT AS APPROPRIATE.

(C) NOTED THE STATEMENT OF THE DELEGATE FOR CANADA DISASSOCIATING HIS GOVERNMENT FROM THE GOVERNING BOARD'S DECISION WITH RESPECT TO TASKS 2 AND 5; AND NOTED FURTHER THAT IN HIS STATEMENT THE DELEGATE FOR CANADA SAID THAT: THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION RELATING TO TASK 2 AND TASK 5, AND THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD EXPECT TO FOLLOW THE DEVELOPMENT OF TASKS 2 AND 5 AND, AS THEY EVOLVE, KEEP UNDER REVIEW ITS DECISION NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE TWO TASKS.

FOOTNOTE 1: THE DELEGATE FOR CANADA STATED THAT THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT DISASSOCIATED ITSELF FROM THE GOVERNING BOARD APPROVAL OF THE WORK PROGRAM WITH RESPECT TO TASKS 2 AND 5.

END TEXT
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, NUCLEAR COOPERATION PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARIS02183
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780035-0671
Format: TEL
From: PARIS USOECD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780129/aaaaaydy.tel
Line Count: 205
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 79e4a1e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3723390
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAN 19 IEA GOVERNING BOARD-NUCLEAR WORK PROGRAM FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF GOVERNING BOARD CONCLUSIONS
CONTAINING NUCLEAR WORK PROGRAM
TAGS: ENRG, FR, OECD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/79e4a1e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014